

The rule provides that the chair of the Committee on Appropriations may insert in the Congressional Record at any time during the remainder of the first session of the One Hundred Eleventh Congress such material as he may deem explanatory of the Senate amendments and the motions regarding H.R. 3326 and H.R. 2847.

The rule provides that on any legislative day of the second session of the One Hundred Eleventh Congress before January 12, 2010, the Speaker at any time may dispense with organizational or legislative business.

The rule provides that on any legislative day of the second session of the One Hundred Eleventh Congress before January 12, 2010, the Chair at any time may declare the House adjourned or declare the House adjourned pursuant to an applicable concurrent rule of adjournment.

The rule provides for pro forma sessions until the House adjourns sine die. Finally, the rule provides that on any legislative day of the first session of the One Hundred Eleventh Congress, the Speaker may at any time declare the House adjourned. Testimony was heard from Representative Dicks.

VA ACQUISITION DEFICIENCIES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on Acquisition Deficiencies at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GAO: Kay L. Daly, Director, Financial Management and Assurance; and Gregory D. Kutz, Managing Director, Forensic Audits and Special Investigations; and the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Maureen T. Regan, Counselor to the Inspector General, Office of Inspector General; and Glenn Haggstrom, Executive Director, Office of Acquisition, Logistics and Construction; and public witnesses.

BRIEFING—HOT SPOTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterterrorism met in executive session to receive a briefing on Hot Spots. The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1470)

H.R. 4218, to amend titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act to prohibit retroactive payments to individuals during periods for which such individ-

uals are prisoners, fugitive felons, or probation or parole violators. Signed on December 15, 2009. (Public Law 111–115)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Douglas B. Wilson, of Arizona, to be Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Malcolm Ross O'Neill, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, Mary Sally Matiella, of Arizona, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller, Paul Luis Oostburg Sanz, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Navy, and Jackalyne Pfannenstiel, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment, all of the Department of Defense, and Donald L. Cook, of Washington, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Ben S. Bernanke, of New Jersey, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Eric L. Hirschhorn, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration, Marisa Lago, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Steven L. Jacques, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, 9:30 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider S. 1562, to provide for a study and report on research on the United States Arctic Ocean and for other purposes, S. 1609, to authorize a single fisheries cooperative for the Bering Sea Aleutian Islands longline catcher processor subsector, S. 2852, to establish, within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an integrated and comprehensive ocean, coastal, Great Lakes, and atmospheric research, prediction, and environmental information program to support renewable energy, S. 2856, to allow the United States-Canada Transboundary Resource Sharing Understanding to be considered an international agreement for the purposes of section 304(e)(4) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, S. 2859, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, S. 583, to provide grants and loan guarantees for the development and construction of science parks to promote the clustering of innovation through high technology activities, H.R. 3819, to extend the commercial space transportation liability regime, an original bill entitled "Surface Transportation Board Reauthorization Act of 2009", and the nominations of Julie Simone Brill, of Vermont, and Edith